



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## Public Library

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Tuesday, September 26, 2006

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### **Library to Screen the Film “Mother of the River” on Oct. 15**

*Event is Part of the Program “Forever Free: Abraham Lincoln’s Journey to Emancipation”*

**SAN DIEGO** – The City of San Diego Public Library will host a film showing and discussion of “Mother of the River” by Zeinabu Davis on Sunday, Oct. 15, at 2 p.m. This free event will be held in the third floor auditorium of the Central Library, located 820 E St. in downtown San Diego.

In this poignant story set in the 1850s, a young slave girl befriends a magical woman in the woods called Mother of the River. Through their friendship the young girl learns about independence, honor, humility and respect for others. “Mother of the River” is a rare portrayal of slavery from a young woman's perspective.

Zeinabu Irene Davis is an independent filmmaker and professor of communication at University of California, San Diego. Her work is passionately concerned with the depiction of women of African descent. Ms. Davis is equally comfortable in film and video and has worked in narrative, documentary and experimental. A selection of her award-winning works include a love story set in Afro-Ohio, “A Powerful Thang” and an experimental narrative exploring the psycho-spiritual journey of a woman with “Cycles.” Her latest work, a dramatic feature film entitled “Compensation” features two inter-related love stories that offer a view of Black Deaf culture.

Ms. Davis will facilitate a discussion right after the presentation.

The film screening is part of the program “Forever Free: Abraham Lincoln’s Journey to Emancipation,” which includes a major exhibit and a series of special events at the Central Library from Oct. 11 through Nov. 24. For more information, visit the Library web site at [www.sandiegolibrary.org](http://www.sandiegolibrary.org).

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“Forever Free: Abraham Lincoln’s Journey to Emancipation” has been organized by the Huntington Library, San Marino, Calif., and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, New York City, in cooperation with the American Library Association Public Programs Office. This exhibition was made possible by major grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, promoting excellence in the humanities, and the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, created by Congress and charged with planning the national celebration of Lincoln’s 200<sup>th</sup> birthday.